

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 13, 15, and 25 have been amended. No new matter is being presented; and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4-25 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is requested.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116:

The Applicant requests entry of this Rule 116 Response because:

it is believed that the amendment of claims 1, 13, 15, and 25 puts this application into condition for allowance as suggested by the Examiner; the amendment(s) of claim 1, 13, 15, and 25 should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added or no new issues are being raised; and the amendments do not significantly alter the scope of the claims and place the application at least into a better form for purposes of appeal. No new features or new issues are being raised.

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures sets forth in Section 714.12 that "any amendment that would place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered." Moreover, Section 714.13 sets forth that "the Proposed Amendment should be given sufficient consideration to determine whether the claims are in condition for allowance and/or whether the issues on appeal are simplified." The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures further articulates that the reason for any non-entry should be explained expressly in the Advisory Action.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS:

The Applicant respectfully submits that the claim amendments overcome the Examiner's objections.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

In the Office Action, at page 2, the Examiner rejected claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth therein. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. The Applicant traverses this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the claim amendments overcome the Examiner's rejection.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submit that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited. At a minimum, this Amendment should be entered at least for purposes of Appeal as it either clarifies and/or narrows the issues for consideration by the Board.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited and possibly concluded by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss any such remaining issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

12/29/15

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